

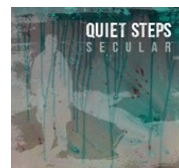
Issue

#2
MAY 2012

NEW ROCK

BRISBANE'S thriving INDIE and PUNK scene

Last Dinosaurs Fires of Waco Quiet Steps Galapogos



Indie + Punk

RED MELLOW

The Brisbane Sound

Cloud Nothings

Cleveland, USA

Album:
"Attack on
Memory"
(2012)



Wavves

San Diego, USA

Album:
"King of the
Beach" (2010)



Butcher Birds

Almost-all-girl sludge rockers from the city. Had to ruin it with a dude drummer.

Drake The Fake

6 new punks from Sunshine Coast playing anarchic indie-punk

Slow Riots

Gold Coast gems wielding grinding guitars and crushing distortion

ALSO!

Live Review
@ Ric's Bar:

With garage/
indie rockers
WideAcre

Gig Guide

Rock gigs
around
Brisbane,
Gold Coast
and the
Sunshine Coast!

INSIDE

AIR INDEPENDENT CHARTS and 4ZZZ TOP 10

Red Mellow Issue #2

Does the underground even exist? Well. Yes. Does it still make the pop consumer quiver with fear, on the sheer fact that what's down there could be subversive, aggressive and downright interesting? Is it still an untamed force to be reckoned with? Or has it become just another cog in the major label music machine. A true definition of underground music will always be futile and pointless. It's too deranged, ambitious and colourful to ever be boxed into plain ol' words. That's what draws people to it- a place of free thinking and creativity. Pushing boundaries and being able to start again. But what could maybe be defined is how the underground works today. It's just short of being a monster- its own establishment. The underground is no longer prisoner to geographic location. No longer must we wait for international shipping to hear the latest sound from London, or the newest music from Moscow. No more are the times where physical domains keep ideas prisoner to their origins. Mass communication. The culture now crosses continents and oceans in seconds. A global bohemia happily challenges mainstream culture from every angle; bouncing ideas of those pesky satellites all day, from hybrids to combinations to fusions (or whatever). The melting pot is open and its ferocious. It's so easy for one to become part of it - maybe four clicks from a computer, or the next page of this thing. Despite this ultimate-macro-connected view of what the 'underground' could be called today, global bohemia still feeds off thousands of independent geographies- special in their own way; contributing to the big scene. These cities and regions are the reason why independent music is never completely capitulated into a common sound or perspective. Eventually a city or region will have a stroke of creative genius- giving the rest of the underground grid a shakeup. It's like a happy shot of adrenaline every so often. This is what the underground is all about- finding something new and exciting before it gets profitably mutilated.

The underground is not regional based anymore- it's one global grid; a result of the many regions of the world adding their own spin. Seems like a complete flipside to the origins of underground culture, but that's progress and that's the beauty of it. A global bohemia- where everything is everywhere, everyone can be anyone, and anything is available.

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Singles Top 10

Place	Highest	Weeks	TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
1	1	42	Somebody That I Used To Know	Gotye Feat. Kimbra	<i>Eleven</i>
2	1	30	Boys Like You	360 Feat. Gossling	<i>Soulmate</i>
3	3	5	Child	360	<i>Soulmate</i>
4	2	14	100% No Modern Talking EP	Knife Party	<i>Ear Storm</i>
5	5	1	Unashamed Desire	Missy Higgins	<i>Eleven</i>
6	1	22	I Love It	Hilltop Hoods Feat. Sia	<i>Golden Era</i>
7	6	5	Need Your Love	The Temper Trap	<i>Liberation</i>
8	8	7	Wild Love	Gossling	<i>Independent</i>
9	8	4	Speaking In Tongues	Hilltop Hoods Feat. Chali 2na	<i>Golden Era</i>
10	5	12	Can't Get Better Than This	Parachute Youth	<i>Sweat it Out</i>

Albums Top 10

Place	Highest	Weeks	TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
1	1	7	Drinking From The Sun	Hilltop Hoods	<i>Golden Era</i>
2	1	36	Making Mirrors	Gotye	<i>Eleven</i>
3	1	30	Falling & Flying	360	<i>Soulmate</i>
4	4	0	Hits	Jimmy Barnes	<i>Liberation</i>
5	5	12	Songs From The South Volume 1/2	Paul Kelly	<i>Gawd Aggi</i>
6	6	15	Forever So	Husky	<i>Liberation</i>
7	3	8	Home	Troy Cassar-Daley	<i>Liberation</i>
8	8	6	Vacation	Big Scary	<i>Independent</i>
9	2	8	In A Million Years	Last Dinosaurs	<i>Dew Process</i>
10	10	3	Thinking In Textures	Chet Faker	<i>Opulent</i>

Radio Top 10

Place	ARTIST	TITLE/MEDIUM	Single/Album	LABEL
1	Argentina	Chalk Outlines	Single	-
2	Undead Apes	Killed by Deaf	Album	<i>Mere Noise</i>
3	The Bloodpoets	War	Single	-
4	Kellie Lloyd	Magnetic North	Album	-
5	Kate Martin	Hand Me My Bow and Arrow	Album	<i>Shock</i>
6	His Merry Men	OP	Single	-
7	Mosman Alder	Raisin Heart	Single	<i>Dew Process</i>
8	DZ Deathrays	Bloodstreams	Album	<i>Useless Art</i>
9	The Cairos	Colours Like Features	Album	<i>Island</i>
10	Alabama Shakes	Boys & Girls	Album	<i>Rough Trade</i>

BRIS +4

Last Dinosaurs

Dew Process

Forming in 2008, Brisbane Indie rock outfit The Last Dinosaurs consist of Sean Caskey, Lachlan Caskey, Sam Gethin-Jones and Danjuro Koyama. After playing festivals such as Splendour, Laneway and opening for Foster the People, The Last Dinosaurs were scooped up by Brisbane label Dew Process. Their first EP, which included *Time and Place* and *Zoom*, was eventually followed up by their debut album *In a Million Years*. Released in March 2012, the album has received positive critical acclaim especially from Triple J which made *In a Million Years* their Feature Album of the Week. They'll be touring the UK in June, hopefully to an audience as excited about their sound as Triple J is.

The album *In a Million Years* is full of catchy, danceable and exciting tunes; a result of the super slick production from producer Jean-Paul Fung (Leader Cheeta, Papa vs. Pretty). With successful songs such as *Zoom*, *Honolulu* and *Time & Place*, maybe *In a Million Years* will follow the band's wishes and "finally be part of history". Time will tell. But at the moment, what their 43 minute indie-pop contagion shows is that scratchy indie-guitar work doesn't have to be a 30-second thrash of the same chord. They're intricate. Sporadic and their guitars are singing. Goodbye power chord chugging, hello Last Dinosaurs.



Listen to: *Honolulu, Zoom, Time & Place*

See More:

- <http://www.dew-process.com/artists/last-dinosaurs>
- <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Last-Dinosaurs/110472951412>

Quiet Steps

Yellow Ghost Records

Indie/Punk band Quiet Steps consists of Leon and Robb Perkin and Joshua Strange. Starting off back in October 2009 with their first 12" LP release *Think Aloud*, Quiet Steps have progressed and recently released their new 8 track album *Secular* with Dave Williams, showing a more melodic and complex sound. Compared to the *Think Aloud* LP release, *Secular* has more thought out structures, intrinsic arrangements, and a haunting Smiths influence which sounds darn fantastic. Guitar sounds are not always thrashing, they alternate with clean and crunchy segments. Overall it's a great album from start to finish. They keep the songs structure and melody fresh in each song, but are still able to keep a cohesive sound. It is such a shame that two of the three members are relocating to Melbourne. Good luck to them though. Apparently there was a planned national tour in late July – August but the personnel problem makes that announcement doubtful. Watch their updates for more info, and cross your fingers.



Listen to: *Thin Ice, Secular, Strike 3, Fire/Water*

See More:

- <http://quietsteps.bandcamp.com/album/secular>
- <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Quiet-Steps/169453873484>

Fires of Waco

Arrest Records

Fires of Waco was formed in 2010 playing their own version of hardcore. Found these guys on the Arrest Records' store. The final line up consisted of Alan (Vocals), Stevie (Guitar), Ryan (Guitar), Johnson (Bass) and Luke (Drums). Unfortunately the band recently called it quits; playing their last show at Via Studios on the 24th of March. Despite only being together for 2 years, Fires of Waco released three records and toured Australia twice. When I heard their first album ***In The Wake Of...*** I definitely thought it was worth a posthumous mention. These guys were a thankful break to the usual guttural growls of the usual hardcore albums these days, but their vocals weren't whiny like the American post-hardcore sound.

Released in 2012 as their debut release, *In The Wake Of...* holds 9 tracks of great tunes. The intro provides a false sense of sound- an unassuming acoustic guitar melody, which gets obliterated by the opening drums of the next track *Light Years Away*. Each following song brings reinforcement to the prominess of their songwriting. The dual guitar work has depth and adds great riffs to the rigid vocals. I found their songs came across better when the singer wasn't pulling out distinctive melodies- a compliment to the instrument section. This is a gem of Brisbane hardcore.



Listen to: *Light Years Away, Kind Hearted Man, Risk and Reason*

See More:

- <http://arrestrecordsaustralia.bandcamp.com/album/fires-of-waco-in-the-wake-of>

Galapogos

Independent/MGM

After establishing in September 2010, Galapogos were quick to hit the music stages of Brisbane. By April 2011 Daniel, Luke, Benjiban, Todd and Jerram had created their first album ***Established Ghosts***, with the help of Tim Steward and Darek Mudge. The 11-track album shows this band's noise-bending abilities with their effects-drenched instruments and rich recording production. The drones, the bends, the noise- it all comes together in a deranged, yet very, very pleasant way. Their songs aren't aggressive- just flowing. Something you could listen to all day and night. Galapogos understand that a note used properly can work tremendously better than a lot of chunky chords. The layered melancholic vocals add that guiding path that gives sense to the sonic noise bliss occurring all around. Not bad for an album recorded in a shed. The amount of different sounds and noises achieved through *Established Ghosts* provide a very in-depth, elaborate and effective organisation of musical electricity. Look em' up. Just get the spelling right otherwise you'll be looking at an island at the equator.



Listen to: *Dancefloor Questionnaire, Steam, Moisturiser*

See More:

- <http://www.facebook.com/galapogosbrisbane>
- <http://www.triplejunearthed.com/Artists/View.aspx?artistid=45375>

indi-0-meter

Butcher Birds

Since 2005, Brisbane

All-girl rock outfit (plus Donovan the drummer) playing noisy, sludge-noisy songs since 2005. Brisbane main stayers, Butcher Birds have played 2010 Big Day Out and are on rotation on Triple J.

Discography:

- *Eat Their Young EP* (2006)
- *Set My Bones* (2009)
- *NEW ALBUM* (2012?)

Listen to: *Tiger Paw, Millions, The Gate*

See More:

- <http://butcherbirds.blogspot.com.au/>



Drake The Fake

Since 2012, Sunshine Coast

Brand new Indie/Punk band from Sunshine Coast. Consists of 6 freaky, crazy punks hell bent on disrupting the establishment and pissing of the po-po. Wielding too much noise and youthful exuberance for them to handle, they might just actually pull it off.

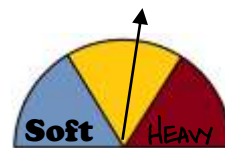
Discography:

- *Single- Oh No!* (2012)
- *NEW ALBUM* (2013)

Listen to: *Oh No!*

See More:

- <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Drake-the-Fake/286153294767810>



Slow Riots

Since 2006, Gold Coast

Merging from the musical wasteland of the Gold Coast, Slow Riots truly are a diamond in the rough. The Drop-D dwellers James Hilan, Shannon Kelly and Jacob Dawood play heavy alternative with unearthly plumes of crushing distortion and mind-expanding tones. Slow Riots have some great tunes, and it's almost certain they'll have some more to come.

Discography:

- *Bored EP* (2011)

Listen to: *Slug, Ruined, Maggots in my Junk, Machine Wife*

See More:

- <http://www.facebook.com/slowriots>
- <http://slowriots.bandcamp.com/album/bored-ep>



GLOBE TROTTIN'

Cloud Nothings Cleveland, USA

Carpark Records

Cloud Nothings is an indie rock band from Cleveland, Ohio, USA which is currently touring Europe. Following a similar start up to that of Foo Fighters, Cloud Nothings was a result of Dylan Baldi's music projects. Following their limited compilation release on Carpark Records in 2010, Cloud Nothings were quick to release their next release; the self-titled LP *Cloud Nothings* in early 2011. After growing tired of the songs through constant gigs, Baldi wanted "to allow for more improvisation and variability". The resulting album, **Attack on Memory** (2012) is the result of a band still finding their sound among the chaos of the millennial music scene.

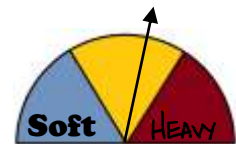
Produced by noise-prophet-punk producer Steve Albini, their third release *Attack on Memory* was released early 2012. Hearing the Billy Joe Armstrong-esque track "Fall In" on radio, I was intrigued to get my hands on the rest of it. The 8-track LP boasts more adventurous guitar work, sharp harmonized melodies and the occasional 9 minute noise fest. It's an album that has moments of greatness and moments of mediocrity. The input of Steve Albini still helped to produce a solid indie rock album for 2012. Overall, it's a good 34 minute listen that has heavier, poppier and noisier songs than previous releases. Hopefully they'll pop down to Oz for a tour.



Listen to: *Fall In, Wasted Days, Stay Useless*

See More:

- <http://cloudnothings.com/>



Wavves San Diego, USA

Fat Possum Records

Since 2008, Wavves have been assaulting the world with a hectic blend of Lo-fi/Noise rock. During their first two albums *Wavves* (2008) and *Wavvvves* (2009), the band toured Europe where front man Nathan Williams had a break down due to ecstasy and valium. Adding to the issue with self-admitted alcohol addiction, Wavves' pulled their shit together and released their 2010 album **King of The Beach**; which has become their highest critically acclaimed work so far. The 12 track album boasts garage/lo-fi/noise indie at its most potent. The guitars are so fuzzed up they sound like they're about to melt. If you've got the *Mutant* track you'll know what I'm talking about. The whole album was essentially written by Nathan Williams, which the lo-fi quality of the album, and William's potent songs provides an all-out assault on the ears. Despite the album's production and tonal qualities, there is a chronic pop sensibility that lurches in between the drones of experimental phrases. Some of these tunes will lodge into your head and will not leave- kind of like a grooving jackhammer. Since releasing *King of The Beach*, The Wavves have also collaborated with Best Coast (USA) and Fucked Up (CAN) to release a 2011 EP titled *Life Sux*. For current news, The Wavves are touring Australia (yay), ripping up Brisbane on 8th May at The Zoo. Tickets are available via Oztix.



Listen to: *Mutant, Post Acid, Super Soaker*

See More:

- <http://www.facebook.com/Wavves>



Music aLIVE

WIDEACRE
26th April 2012

Ric's Bar, Fortitude Valley

In the space of 80 metres the scene on Brunswick Street changes from brothels and adult shops to cafes and Red Roosters. Situated amongst the mishmash is a small bar called 'Rics'. Looking through the glass Ric's looks unassuming and chilled. Its filled with uni students, bohemians, hipsters of every kind and an eclectic assortment of funny looking people. As the bouncer swings opens the door, you're instantly hit with a unexpected amounts of volume. It's great.

There's a small stage (very intimate) and stacks of posters from previous events; maybe as a little reassurance to the bands that 'yes, it is possible to fit everyone on that tiny stage'. As the PA died down, the brief moment of murmuring was quickly drowned out again by the sound of some amps firing up. Some of the funny looking dudes sitting at the back had grabbed guitars and were roaring them to life on the tiny stage. Those funny looking dudes went by the name of **Wideacre**, playing their own version of noisy garage indie.

As the songs pumped out, people were either sitting back nodding along or at the front; immersing themselves in alcohol and the solid beat. Primed from the very start by Murray's drum count, punters would happily feel it through the whole song.

It was an eclectic line-up, every member sporting his own vibe. You had Murray the hipster drummer (suspenders and all) right behind Christ the no-frills bassist lad. Murry was the tallest and funniest looking, but hunched over his guitar so much at times he was almost level with the unassuming singer/guitarist Xijun, who had sweet wailing vocals similar to Craig Nicolls. It was uniquely deranged but added to the 'anything goes' vibe of Ric's.



Their early material was rather consistent- fast short wails of noise accompanied by quick hi-hats and the scratchy guitars. Later on Wideacre were playing material that was slower, using quiet loud dynamic s and rich effects in the lead guitar. The result was a lot of long, droning, occasionally dissonant noise that sounded sweet and anarchic. Definitely cool music to drink to. These songs were applauded by an audience that was hungry for more, or just too happy to care.

Their minor screw ups were easily hidden behind their wallowing sounds and cruisy vibe. To some degree Wideacre have mastered the attitude of being carefree, and used it and their sound to put their audience in a good place. Reckon these guys would be perfect for house parties- they'd destroy the place and make you feel good about it at the same time.

BRISBANE

The Zoo

- Tue 8th May: WAVVES (USA) with SURES + GUNG HO (Doors 7:30pm)
- Sat 12th May: DRAWCARD with NINTH OF MAY + CHAMBERLAND (Doors 8pm)
- Fri 25th May: TALL POPPY INDIE ROCK PARTY feat. FAR FROM PARIS, CHRIS TIMMS, NIGHT TIME FIONA, STONE FOX, BART THRUPP AND ONLY JUST (Doors 8:30pm)
- Wed 30th May ANTI FLAG with STRIKE ANYWHERE + THE FLATLINERS (Doors 7:30pm)

Ric's Bar

- Fri 4th May YOUNG GRIFFO with CHASING THE JEFFREY
- Fri 11th May THE FAMILIARS with EDAM'S MARCH

The Hi-Fi

- Tue 8th May KAISER CHIEFS with DEEP SEA ARCADE (Doors 6:30pm)
- Fri 11th May BALL PARK MUSIC (Doors 8pm)

Jubilee Hotel

- Every Fri MONSTROTHIC (METAL)

Basement 243

- Every Wed INFERNO (FREE METAL)

GOLD COAST

Surfers Paradise Beer Garden

- Every Thu THRASH THURSDAYS (HARDCORE, PUNK, METAL)

SUNSHINE COAST

Commercial Hotel, Nambour

- Sat 5th May WHISKEY AND SPEED, MYRTLE PLACE, SUCKER PUNCH

Want Red Mellow to write about your band?

*Want the goodness of your
sound to reach more people?*

So music people.

SEND YOUR **TRACKS/BIO/WHATEVER** IN AND THEY WILL BE
SPREAD, OK?

Your music will be heard and read about at the same time!!!!!!
Whooah

Email Music/Link to:

- ryanacid@hotmail.com

OR

Upload/Link Music link to:

- <http://redmellowbrisbane.blogspot.com.au/>
- <http://www.facebook.com/RedMellowMusic>

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